

Cut & run, Texas-style

Faced with a court battle to retain control of the Texas end of the United States Wrestling Association, owner Jerry Jarrett decided to punt.

Jarrett, owner of the nation's third-largest wrestling company, had an injunction filed against him a few weeks back by Kevin Adkisson (Texas wrestler Kevin Von Erich) and his brother Kerry (who wrestles for the World Wrestling Federation as The Texas Tornado). Each brother owns 20% of the Texas operation.

The USWA is really a combination of two promotions owned by Jarrett. One group, which Jarrett and the Adkisson brothers own, promotes in Texas. The other half, also owned by Jarrett, runs shows in Tennessee and Kentucky.

A Sept. 13 court date had been scheduled to hear the Adkisson brothers' charges of misappropriation of funds. The brothers claimed they hadn't received any money for their share of the operation in several months. But the day before the court date, Jarrett cleaned out his office in the Dallas Sportatorium and left the promotion in the hands of Kevin (because Kerry is on tour with the WWF as its intercontinental champion).



**GRUNT
AND
GRIN**

Those close to the situation say that Jarrett pulled out rather than fight the charges because he believes it's only a matter of time before Kevin runs the company out of business. At that point Jarrett can return to Texas, start a new company, and not have the Adkissons as his partners.

BY DAVE MELTZER
FOR THE NATIONAL

The partnership in the company, which as World Class Wrestling was one of the nation's hottest wrestling operations in the mid-'80s, started in late 1988. Kevin and Kerry, who were given control of the company when their father Jack Adkisson (Fritz Von Erich) retired from promoting, had run it deep into debt. A deal was cut with Jarrett in order to save the company from folding and as part of the deal, Jarrett received 60% of the stock.

Jarrett, along with Max Andrews of Andrews Entertainment, who was also named in the lawsuit, will retain the 100-plus station syndication network. However, at least for now, it appears those shows will be taped outside Texas. Kevin will promote the weekly Friday night shows in the Sportatorium, but no longer under the USWA banner.

ETC: A correction from last week's column: Paul Diamond was back with the WWF over the weekend, so his absence was only temporary. Also, Bob Orton isn't coming in ... The Renegade Warriors (Mark and Chris Youngblood) start with the NWA in late October ... The USWA will hold a tournament to determine its champion on Oct. 8 in Memphis. Its last champion, The Snowman (Eddie Crawford), left after a dispute with the promotion ... Scott Steiner "runs the gauntlet" this weekend on TBS television with matches against Bobby Eaton, Ric Flair and Arn Anderson.

The "Grunt and Grin" column appears every Tuesday.

CHAD -

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THE World Class
USWA are
now 2,
separate
federations ...

— TERRY FUNK,
LAWYER
MEAN MARK &
more are
slated